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# PUBLICATIONS.

OF THE

## South Carolina Historical Society

JOURNAL OF A VOYAGE TO CHARLESTOWN  
IN SO. CAROLINA BY PELATZAH  
WEBSTER IN 1765.

EDITED BY  
PROF. T. P. HARRISON.

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INTRODUCTION.

Pelatiah Webster was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, in 1725. He was graduated at Yale in 1746, studied theology, and preached in Greenwich, Massachusetts, in the winter of 1748-49. About 1755 he engaged in business in Philadelphia, where he accumulated a small fortune, at the same time devoting himself to study and literary work. In the preface to his "Political Essays," published in Philadelphia in 1791, he says: "The first thirty years of my life were spent in a literary way, and generally employed in a course of hard study, and close attention to some subject or other; after which, by a turn in my private affairs, I went into a course of mercantile business, which was indeed more a matter of necessity than inclination. My old habits of reading and thinking could not easily be shaken off, and I was scarce ever without a book or some subject of discussion ready prepared, to which I could resort the moment I found myself at leisure from other business."

Mr. Webster was an active patriot during the Revolution, aiding the American cause with pen and purse, and in February, 1778, was seized by the British and confined for a hundred and thirty-two days in the city jail. Part of his property to the amount of £500 was confiscated.

He gave much time to the study of the currency, finance, and the resources of the country, and was often consulted on these matters by members of Congress. In his first essay, in October, 1776, he strongly urged the laying of a tax to provide for the speedy redemption of the Continental currency, and in 1779 he began, in Philadelphia, the publication of a series of "Essays on Free Trade and Finance," of which seven were issued, the last in 1785. His "Dissertation on the Political Union and the Constitution of the Thirteen United States of North America," published in Philadelphia in 1783, is mentioned by James Madison as having an influence in directing the public mind to the necessity of a better form of government. Mr. Webster also published "Essays on Credit," 1786; "Reasons for Repealing the Act of the Legislature which took away the Charter of the Bank of North America," 1786;



and "Political Essays on the Nature and Operation of Money, Public Finance and other Subjects, published during the American War;" the collected edition was published in 1791.<sup>1</sup>

The MS. of the Voyage to Charlestown is the property of the South Carolina Historical Society, through whose courtesy it is published. On the cover of the MS. is written: "The South Carolina Historical Society, care of Rev. Dr. C. C. Pinckney. From Daniel C. Gilman, President of the Johns Hopkins University." President Gilman gave to the editor the following account of the MS.: "The Diary of Pelatiah Webster came to me by inheritance from the estate of Pelatiah Perit, Esq. (who died in 1864), a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1802, and for ten years President of the Chamber of Commerce in the city of New York. Mr. Perit, the grandson of Pelatiah Webster, was a well known merchant in New York during most of his life, being a leading partner in the house of Goodhue & Co."

The MS. is perfectly preserved. It is composed of thirty-one pages, all but four of which are filled with the account of the voyage to Charleston.

The editor wishes to acknowledge valuable information contained in the notes received from Rev. Robert Wilson, D. D., President of the Huguenot Society of Charleston; and from Mr. D. E. Huger Smith, of Charleston, who, however, gives all the credit for his interesting notes to his friend, Mr. Langdon Cheves; thanks are especially due to "Octogenarian" for the full account of Bishop Smith and Historian Hewatt in the Charleston "News and Courier," of 26th January, 1898. In many cases the exact words of these notes have been used, as the original sources of information have been inaccessible to the editor. The exact copy of the journal follows:

<sup>1</sup>NOTE.—These facts are taken from Appleton's "Cyclopedia of American Biography."—EDITOR.

## A JOURNAL OF A VOIAGE

from Philadelphia to  
Charlestown in S<sup>o</sup> Carolina,

Begun May 15, 1765.

May God give a prosperous voiage—

Deo Soli Gloria!

1765—

May 15<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 4 o'Clock P. M. Sail'd from Philadel-



phia in the Brig, Charlestown packet, Tho. Eastwick Com<sup>r</sup> for Charlestown in S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. Came to an anchor a little below Gloucesterpoint: went ashore at Gloucester: returnd again on board at 7 P. M.

Thursd. 16. Weigh<sup>d</sup> abt 2 A. M. Wind at N. E. Soon grounded & lay by till 6 A. M., when we floated and made sail with a fair wind; but towards night the wind headed us & we came to an anchor a little below Reedy Island.

Frid. 17. At 6 A. M., went ashore at Leston's: high lands on the west side of the river & bo<sup>t</sup> some fowls &c. for sea store. At 11 returnd aboard & made sail, and at 5 P. M. came to anchor off Bombo hook.

Saturday 18. Weigh<sup>d</sup> anchor early, & made sail with a fine wind at N.: pass<sup>d</sup> Cape Henlopen at 11 P. M.: 'tis a low, sandy land: a light-house is building on it. Sail<sup>d</sup> at abt 7 knotts, S. by E., brisk gale & smoth sea. We gradually gain<sup>d</sup> an offing from land: at sunsett, the land distant abt 4 leagues: the coast all low land trending nearly N. & S.

Sund. 19. Fine wind at N., & most agreeable fine clear weather & smoth sea: steer<sup>d</sup> S. by E. abt 8 knots. Lat. at noon per obs.  $36^{\circ} 30'$ , at 7 P. M. per reaconing were abreast Cape Hatteras in Lat.  $35^{\circ} 15'$ , but were not in sight of it. At 6 steer<sup>d</sup> S. W. by S.

Monday 20. The wind headed us & blew fresh at S. with squalls & rain: steer<sup>d</sup> west with a tumbling sea, reef<sup>d</sup> M. T. S. Lat. per obs.  $34^{\circ} 27'$ .

Tuesd. 21. Squally with rain, & sometimes flattening into a calm: steer<sup>d</sup> west southerly. Abt 6 P. M. wind came about to ye N. E. with rain, thick clouds & squalls, and a bad sea. Lat. pr. obs.  $34^{\circ} 31'$ . We apprehend ourselves in the Gulf Stream & set greatly to ye eastw<sup>d</sup> by ye current.

Wedsd. 22. Run before the wind—a brisk gale—steering W. S. W.: bad, heavy sea: find ourselves set greatly to the eastw<sup>d</sup> by the Gulf Stream. No sight of land. Lat. pr. obs.  $34^{\circ} 31'$ .

Thursd. 23<sup>d</sup>. Still before the wind, a heavy sea: we are



doubtless in the Gulf Stream, for with a W. S. W. course of 4 or 5 knots we gain no southing. Lat. pr. obs.  $34^{\circ} 31'$ . At 4 P. M. squally with small rain: the sea falls, so we hope ourselves clear of the Gulf Stream.

Frid. 24<sup>th</sup>. Wind at N. E. but small: are clear of the Gulf Stream & in soundings abt 24 fathom. Lat. pr. obs. 33.. 57. In fear of the shoals call'd the Frying-pan.

Saturd. 25. Still before the wind steering W. S. W.: very smooth sea. Soundings from 20 to 16 fathom. Lat. pr. obs.  $33^{\circ} 18'$ .

Sund. 26. Fine gale at N. E. Steering W. by S. W. & W. by N. at 10 A. M. made the land a head & on the starboard bow. 'tis low land, with very few risings or homocks: are right of the Bar of Ch<sup>t</sup>own: at 11 shortend sail & took the pilot on board: at 1 P. M. cross<sup>d</sup> the bar: at 2 drop't anchor in ye Bay abreast the market house abt a cables length from the shore. Soon went ashore and at 4 P. M. went to St. Philips Ctch. and there attended Divine service. Slept at night at Mr. Rutherford's.<sup>1</sup>

May 27. Spent in viewing the town. It contains abt 1000 houses, with inhabitants, 5000 whites and 20000 blacks: has 8 houses for religious worship, viz. St. Philip's & St. Michael's, Ctch. of England, large stone buildings with porticos with large pillars and steeples. St. Michael's has a good ring of bells. 1 Scotch presbyterian Ctch.; 1 Independt, call'd the New England Meeting; 1 Dutch Ctch., & two Baptist Meetings, & one french Ctch.: these 3 last very small.

The State-house is a heavy building of abt 120 by 40 feet. The Council Chamber is abt 40 feet square, decorated with

<sup>1</sup>In March, 1765. Charles Dawson opened a tavern "in the house next to Mr. Rutherford's."—S. C. Gazette. David Rutherford, of Charles Town, wharfinger, on 7<sup>th</sup> Jan., 1776, made his will, leaving his property to his brother, Robert Rutherford, of Indian Land, planter.—P. C. Book 1774-78, 306.

Rutherford & Ainslie were merchants of No. 6 Elliott St.—Almanac of 1782.



many heavy pillars & much carving, rather superb than elegant. The assembly room is of ye same dimensions, but much plainer work. 'tis convenient eno<sup>h</sup>. There are sundry publick offices kept in small apartments below: there are two flights of stairs, one leading to the Council Chamber, the other to the assembly room. Below stairs is a court-house where the courts of common pleas & pleas of ye crown are kept, but is yet unfinish<sup>d</sup>.

The streets of this city run N. & S., & E. & W., intersecting each other at right angles: they are not paved except the foot-ways within the posts abt 6 feet wide, which are paved with brick in the principal streets.

There are large fortifications here but mostly unfinish<sup>d</sup> and ruinous. There is a pretty fort on James Island call<sup>d</sup> Johnson's fort which commands the entrance of the harbour, and a great number of breastworks and cannon all round the town with a fosse much fill<sup>d</sup> up. There are also mounds thrown up and ditches round the back part of the town but all ruinous & nearly useless.

The town stands on a neck of land form<sup>d</sup> by the two rivers, Ashley on the S. & Cowper on the north, fronting the Bay abt 9 miles within the Bar. The two rivers are not more than a mile apart at several miles north of the town, and the only considerable road w<sup>ch</sup> leads from the City is up the neck & call<sup>d</sup> the path and at six or seven miles from the town it forks & runs into the various parts of the country.

The laborious business is here chiefly done by black slaves of which there are great multitudes. The climate is very warm: the chief produce is rice & indigo: the manufacture of hemp is set afoot & like to succeed very well. They have considerable lumber & naval stores. They export annually 100,000 barrels of rice & 60,000 lbs indigo, [Rice worth on average 6 shillings pr. c<sup>t</sup> i. e. 30/ pr. BBl. Indigo from 3/ to 3/6 per lb.] with considerable pine boards, tar, turpentine, hemp, staves, &c.: have very few mechanic arts of any sort, & very great quantity of mechanic utensils are imported from England & the North<sup>d</sup> Colonies.



The[y] have no considerable seminaries of learning, but many youth of quality go to London for an education. The people are vastly affable and polite, quite free from pride, & a stranger may make himself very easy with them.

The whites in this province are computed at abt 20,000 & the blacks at 4 times that number. The English settlements extend two or three hundred miles into the country westw<sup>d</sup> into the Cherokee & Catawba's country, & those distant west<sup>w</sup> parts of the province are settled by great numbers of people that travel from the northard for lands from the back parts of Pennsylvania, Maryland & Virginia, & consist mostly of Dutch & Irish families: the pine sandy plains extend two hundred miles westward before any mountains rise, nor is there a mill or any other water works to be found in all that space.

There is a little wheat raisd in this province, but poor in quality, nor will it produce more than two thirds of the price of the northw<sup>d</sup> flour which is the principal supply of bread. Few apples grow here: all the cyder used here is imported. There are a few vessels built here, and are all plank<sup>d</sup> with pitch pine plank, & the crooked timbers are live oak (a wood of great firmness and durableness) and the beams, keels, & all other strait timbers are of pitch pine: 'tis said that a ship well built here will last thirty years.

There is a pretty well chosen library in town purchas<sup>d</sup> by private subscriptions of a number of gentlemen, by the name of the Ch<sup>t</sup>own Library Society.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Not probably "the first public library in America."—McCrady: "History of S. C. under the Proprietary Government," p. 353. That the library at Henrico, Va., "was the first public library in the British Colonies is a moral certainty."—Steiner: "Rev. Thomas Bray and his American Libraries," American Historical Review, Vol. II, № 1, pp. 59-75. The Rev. Thomas Bray established altogether thirty libraries similar to the one in Charleston.—See Dr. Steiner's article. The earliest library laws in America are, as far as known, those passed in 1700 and in 1712 with regard to the Charleston Library.—Trott: "Laws of the British Plantations in America." London, 1721, quoted by Dr. Steiner.



The most active season of the year is from Dec<sup>r</sup> to May by which time most of their crops of rice & indigo are bro<sup>t</sup> to town & ship<sup>d</sup> off so that during the great heat of the succeeding summer months the merchants in town have little to do. There are but few country seats near the town, & many people move to considerable distances up into the country to spend the summer and avoid the intense heats & confin<sup>d</sup> air of the town: the winds generally blowing during the summer months from the south & S. W. from off the hot sands of Florida and Georgia are much warmer than the Westindia breezes which come in from the sea.

Dined this day with Mr. Thomas Shirley,<sup>1</sup> a very polite English Gent. residing here in very genteel fashion: is an ingenuous ready man: was bread a merch<sup>t</sup>, has travel<sup>d</sup> much, understands several modern languages: pass<sup>d</sup> the afternoon agreeably with him.

Tuesday 28. Still viewing the town with some attention. Dined with Mr. William Glen,<sup>2</sup> a reputable merch<sup>t</sup> in the town who deals largely in the London trade: in the afternoon took an airing into the country with him in his chair several miles: the road is level & sandy & wou<sup>d</sup> be very hot were it not shaded by fine avenues of large trees growing close by each side of the road and shading it.

<sup>1</sup>Thomas Shirley and Edward Martin were partners of the firm of Shirley and Martin.—S. C. Gazette, 13 July, 1765. They advertise "very good Fayal wines," and later a cargo of "fifty healthy young Gold Coast negroes."

<sup>2</sup>William Glen, "son of John Glen, whose ancestry can be traced directly back to Robert and Margaret Bruce. John Glen had a number of daughters, of whom Elizabeth (sister of Wm Glen who entertained Mr. Webster) married the Earl of Dalhousie. Through her and her husband's influence at Court, her brother, James Glen, was appointed royal governor of South Carolina. \* \* \* \* William Glen has no descendants bearing the name, the last, Dr. William Glen, who practised in Charleston, having died in 185—. The only descendants are the Reeves family of Charleston, and the Spanns of Galveston, Texas."—Letter to the editor.



Wednesday 29. Still sauntring abot town as much as the great heats will permit. Dined with Mr. Tho. Smith,<sup>1</sup> a reputable merch<sup>t</sup> in this town & in very fine business: is an agreeable sensible kind man: passed my time with him very pleasantly several hours.

Thursday 30. Dined this day with Mr. John Poaug,<sup>2</sup> a Scotch merch<sup>t</sup> in this City, a very genteel polite man.

Frid. 31. Dined with Revd Rob<sup>t</sup> Snith,<sup>3</sup> rector of St. Philip's in this City, an English Gent. educated at University of Cambridge: a very sociable & polite clergyman.

Sat. June. 1. Rode into the country seven miles with Mr. Tho. Loughton Smith to the country seat of Col. Benj<sup>a</sup> Smith.<sup>4</sup> Dined there: spent the afternoon very pleasantly:

<sup>1</sup>Tho. Smith. See note below on Tho. Loughton Smith, Col. Benj.<sup>m</sup> Smith, and Tho. Smith.

<sup>2</sup>Mr. John Poaug was a well-known merchant, a partner of John Torrans. He married a Miss Wragg of a noted Charles Town family. For notice of his death, see S. C. and Am<sup>n</sup> Gazette, 16 Dec., 1780.

<sup>3</sup>Revd Rob<sup>t</sup> Smith (see Dalcho's Church History of S. C.) was born in Norfolk, England, 1732. At the age of fourteen he became a commoner of Caius and Gonville College, Cambridge. He was appointed Assistant Minister of St. Philip's, Charles Town, and arrived there Nov. 3d. 1757. He was made Rector in 1759. Having espoused the Colonial cause, he was, in 1780, on the surrender of Charlestown, banished to Philadelphia. Returning to Charlestown in 1783, he resumed his duties, became the first Principal of the College of Charleston, which position he resigned in 1798. In 1795 he was elected and consecrated (in Philadelphia) first Bishop of South Carolina. He died in 1801. His descendants have been and are a distinguished family in Charleston.

<sup>4</sup>Benjamin Smith and Thomas Smith were brothers, sons of Col. Thomas Smith by his marriage to Sabina, daughter of the Second Landgrave Smith.

Maj. or Col. Benjamin Smith was for years one of the most prominent men of the Colony. A very successful merchant, he accumulated a considerable fortune. He filled many public positions, and was for a time one of the Assistant Justices of the Province. For many years he was Speaker of the Honourable the Commons



the Col. is a Gent. of ab<sup>t</sup> 50, cheerful, easy, & generous: has a great fortune & declines business, having turn'd over his mercantile affairs into the hands of his son Tho.

Sund. 2. Attended Divine service at St. Michael's. Dined at Mr. Torranc's<sup>1</sup> on the bay, a reputable merch<sup>t</sup>, with Col. Howard<sup>2</sup> & sundry European Gent.

House of Assembly. He died at Newport, Rhode Island, in 1770, in the 53<sup>rd</sup> year of his age. There are in Charleston many of his descendants.

His brother Thomas had also a successful career as a merchant and banker. He left a numerous progeny by his wife, Sarah Moore, daughter of Roger Moore, of New Hanover County, N. C. His descendants have filled many prominent positions in both the Carolinas.

Thomas Loughton Smith was the son of Benjamin Smith by his first wife, Ann Loughton. He married Elizabeth Inglis, and two of their sons married daughters of the celebrated Hon. Ralph Izard of Goose Creek. He was a vestryman of St. Philip's Church and a gentleman of great prominence socially and otherwise.

<sup>1</sup>Mr. Torranc is John Torranc of the mercantile firm of Torranc, Poaug, & Co., who sold India Muslins, Wine, Salt, Ironmongery, and many other commodities. They were also ship-brokers and agents.—See above note on Mr. Poaug. John Torranc was born in the County of Derry, Ireland; married Elizabeth, 3rd daughter of Hon. William Smith, a distinguished jurist of the Colony of New York; and died 1780. His tombstone is in the Circular Church yard.

<sup>2</sup>Col. Howard was perhaps Col. Probart Howarth, who in 1744 was a lieutenant in one of the independent companies stationed in South Carolina. He was an executor of Catherine Croft, widow of Childermas Croft, Esq., in which capacity he conveyed lands in 1769. See M. C. O. N., 3, 460. Col. Howarth was for some time Commandant of Fort Johnson, and as one of the Commissioners of Fortifications and Commandant of the Fort, he was present on 29 June, 1775, when the division line was run between the land belonging to Fort Johnson and the land of the heirs of Thomas Lamboll.—Charleston Year Book, 1883.

In 1785, the Legislature, by enactment, granted citizenship to Col. Probart Howarth. In 1784, Col. Probart Howarth, late of South Carolina, conveyed lands in Georgia, the conveyance reciting the marriage sometime since made between James Graham and Hester, daughter of the said Col. Howarth.



Mr. Torrants is a sensible man & deals largely as a merchant in partnership with Mr. Poaug 'fore mentioned.

Monday. 3. Dined this day with Mr. Thomas Liston,<sup>1</sup> a reputable merch<sup>t</sup> born here: is a man of great openness & politeness, of generous sentiments & very genteel behaviour: passed the afternoon very agreeably in his sumer house with him & Mr. Lindo,<sup>2</sup> a noted Jew, inspector of Indigo here.

Tuesd. 4. The militia all appear<sup>d</sup> under arms, ab<sup>t</sup> 800, & the guns at all the forts were fir<sup>d</sup>, it being the King's Birth-day. The artillery made a good appearance and performed their exercises & firings very well. The militia were not so well train<sup>d</sup> & exercised, but made a pretty good & handsome appearance. [Side note.] N. B. The militia & artillery of Ch<sup>t</sup>own are said to consist of 1300 men in the whole list from 16 to 60 years old.

Dined with Mr. Wm. Glen afore mention<sup>d</sup>.

Weds. 5. Rode out to Mr. George Marshall's<sup>3</sup> country

"Thomas Liston was probably of the firm of Middleton, Liston, & Hope, general merchants, dealing largely in Osnaburgs, Fayal wines. Hardware, Gold Coast negroes, etc. They also represented various ships and "snows" trading with Bristol and other ports.

<sup>1</sup>Mr. Lindo, a noted Jew, is "Moses Lindo, Esq., for many years Inspector-General of Indigo in this town," whose death is chronicled with the above explanation in the Gazette, 26 April, 1774. He has left none of his name, but we find a very characteristic advertisement in which he states he has been for some time Inspector etc. "at 1 per ct." He "acquaints the public that it will not hereafter suit him to do the same for less than two dollars per hundred." He informs "all who are not on his register" that he will serve them for 5 per ct. if a request be sent "accompanied by a ten pound bill." He further declines "to be thought the father of iniquitous practices committed with Carolina Indigo."

<sup>2</sup>Mr. George Marshall was one of five or six brothers, Scotch gentlemen, who had settled in Charles Town some years prior to 1765. He was brother to Mr. Alexander Marshall, grandfather of the late Rev. Alexander Marshall, D. D., of St. John's Chapel, Charleston. The son of the latter, Maj. Alexander Marshall, Pres. of St. Andrew's Society, is one of the most prominent citizens of



seat 3 miles from town on Ashley River: dined there: view'd his plantation: saw his rice and indigo growing in the field, & his negroes howing it. The rice grows much like rye but somewhat finer & paler. The indigo is a dark color'd weed growing on a clumsy stalk which branches much & bears single leaves somewhat like buckwheat & abt as high. I viewed also his vats for steeping, beating & lyming his indigo, the trough for pressing it, conveniences for drying, &c. in short the whole process, but it not being the season for making it I could not have an opportunity of seeing the process perform'd.

Mr. Marshal is a Scotch gentleman of great humanity and courtesy, very happy in his plantation & of a fine agreeable temper: he has a very beautiful orangery, & fine garden with variety of fine vegetables of the growth of the climate, as oranges, chickesaw plumbs, catalpas, nectarines, figs, &c., &c. Drank a most excellent bottle of claret with him and return'd to town with great pleasure, & pass'd the evening with Tommy Smith very agreeably, had smelts among other thigs for supper.

Thursd. 6<sup>th</sup> Spent the forenoon very agreeably in the Library with the librarian Mr. Carwithen.<sup>1</sup> Dined with parson Smith & passed the afternoon with him and Mr. Crallan,<sup>2</sup> and English gent. late from London, & was diverted by

Charleston. George Marshall, whose "country seat" Mr. Webster visited in 1765, died 16 July, 1767, at the age of 59. The witnesses to his will were Alexander Hewit, William Glen, Jr., and Richard Mason.

P. C. 1761-77, f. 45.

<sup>1</sup>Mr. Carwithen. "Last Sunday died, aged 66 years (41 of which he had resided in this Province) Mr. William Carwithen, Librarian of the Charles Town Library Society, and yesterday Mr. William Hort was elected to succeed him." S. C. Gazette of Thursday, 6 Sept., 1770.

<sup>2</sup>Mr. Crallan is an Episcopal minister who came to Charles Town in 1764; nothing further has been learned of him.



some fine airs on the harpsichord by Mr. —— an English organist.

Friday 7. Attended the Library: very sultry: spent the evening with the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Smith.

Saturday 8. Very hot: met with disappointment in the sale of my flour which lies on my hands & I fear I must leave it unsold or expose it to vendue with loss of what I have procured with long pains & industry: my mind is somew<sup>t</sup> depress<sup>d</sup>.

Dined with Mr. Liston, pass<sup>d</sup> ye afternoon agreeably at his summer house till 5 o'clock P. M. then went up into the steple of St. Michael's the highest in town & which commands a fine prospect of the town, harbour, river, forts, sea, &c.

Sunday. 9. Attended the Scotch presbyterian ctch. w<sup>th</sup> Mr. Glen. Dined with him. At night attended the funeral of Mr. —— a genteel gentleman of the law who was buried in the Scotch way with a sort of sermon, prayers, & singing in the ctch. in stead of the service.

Monday 10. Have taken a passage to Philadelphia on board the sloop Peggy, Nicholson master. Dined at the ordinary & payed 22/6 curr<sup>y</sup> for dinner. Cannot yet sell my flour: am somew<sup>t</sup> concerned.

Tuesday 11. Sold 12 BBl. flour at £4 curr<sup>y</sup> pr. ct which is ab<sup>t</sup> first cost to Mr. Peter Boquet<sup>1</sup> & the rest Mr. Liston procured me a sale of at 90/ pr. ct. So I am over the difficulties of my sales. Dined with Mr. Liston, Capt. Bains<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mr. Peter Boquet is Peter Bocquet who is mentioned in Ramsay's "Revolution in South Carolina" (Vol. II, p. 264) among the citizens of Charleston imprisoned under the old Exchange by Col. Balfour in 1780.

Peter Bocquet the elder of Charles Town made his will on 9 Dec. 1780, and it was proved after the return of peace in 1783. He left several daughters and a son, Maj. Peter Bocquet.

<sup>2</sup>Capt. Bains is perhaps Captain John Rains, of the Sloop Altitude, sailed on 11th November, 1765, for Bermuda.



from London & Mr. Head.<sup>1</sup> Passed the evening at the Rev<sup>d</sup> Rob<sup>c</sup> Smith's.

Wedsday 12. Spent most of this day in settling my little acc<sup>ts</sup>, exchanging my monies into dollars. The season is gay but the air sultry, yet cool<sup>d</sup> by frequent squalls of wind & rain. Passed some hours in Mr. Liston's sum<sup>r</sup> house and the evening with Mr. Glen.

Thursd. 13. See an aligator of which there are many in the rivers & bays in this country. They are made much like what is call<sup>d</sup> swif in N. England. This I see was abt 3 feet long & three inches diam<sup>r</sup> in the body: his skin was scaly much like a snake, his mouth very large and kavernous, his teeth irregular, long, partaking partly of those of fish & partly of those of a dog. Some of these amphibious animals here are surprizingly large & 15 or 18 feet long.

A warm morning but clear. Dined this day at the ordinary & paid 20/. See several of my countrymen from Rhode Island &c. Spent the afternoon at Mr. Liston's summer house and the evening at Mr. Glen's.

Friday 14. A hot sultry day. Went with Mr. Liston in a boat to Sullivan's Island where were 2 or 300 negro's performing quatantine with the small pox. This island is 7 miles E. from the town, is abt 4 miles long, very sandy, hot,

<sup>1</sup>Mr. Head is perhaps of the firm of Price, Hest and Head, who sold Dry Goods in great variety, flour, salt, and young negroes from Barbadoes.—Gazette, 16th March, 1765.

In 1769 Sir John Head, Baronet, died, and the baronetcy was afterwards claimed by and confirmed to his distant cousin, Sir Edmund Head, son of John Head, merchant of Liverpool. Sir Edmund Head died November, 1796, and was succeeded by his son Sir John Head, who was succeeded by Sir Edmund Walker Head, in 1858 Governor-General of Canada.—Burke's Peerage.

The eldest daughter of Sir Edmund Head died in Charles Town, 28th May, 1772, and his Lady in May, 1775. In September, 1775, Sir Edmund Head, Baronet, was elected as a delegate from Charles Town to the Provincial Congress. On 24th November, 1775, he advertised that he had removed his stock of liquors to the plantation of Stephen Cater, Esq., near Dorchester.—See Gazette.



and barren, tho there are some groves of trees in it: there is a pest-house here with pretty good conveniences: the most moving sight was a poor white man performing quarantine alone in a boat at anchor ten rods from shore with an awning & pretty poor accomodations.

Returned at 2 P. M. Passed just under Shoots Folly,<sup>1</sup> a low land abt 3 miles from town with no timber on it. Passed the afternoon with Mr. Liston, and the evening w<sup>th</sup> Rev.<sup>d</sup> Rob.<sup>t</sup> Smith. See the piemento tree, which has a leaf like a flag and a stalk like a large cabbage stalk, & bears large tostling white flowers.

Sat. June 15. Warm & sultry. Dined with Mr. Liston, & passed the forenoon at the library. Passed some hours this afternoon with some Guinea captains, who are a rough set of people, but somewhat carress<sup>d</sup> by the merch<sup>ts</sup> on acc<sup>o</sup> of the g<sup>t</sup> profits of their commissions. Spent the evening in walking and smok<sup>d</sup> a pipe at Mr. Glen's.

Sund. 16. A. M. attended Divine service at the Scotch Presbyterian meeting. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hewett<sup>2</sup> preached<sup>d</sup>. Dined with Mr. Glen & sundry other gent<sup>n</sup> viz. Mr Miche,<sup>3</sup> Mc-

<sup>1</sup>Shoot's Folly is now called Castle Pinckney, situated in Charleston Harbor.

<sup>2</sup>Reyd Mr. Hewett was the Rev. Alexander Hewatt, D. D., pastor of the Scotch (First) Presbyterian Church from 1763 to 1776. On the 20 March, 1763, he was Moderator of the Session as shown by the records of the church of that date in his own handwriting. In 1776 he left the Province on account of his royalist opinions.

Dr. Hewatt is best known, however, as the first historian of South Carolina. The title of his work is, "An Historical Account of the Rise and Progress of the Colonies of South Carolina and Georgia." London, 1779. See McCrady's "South Carolina under the Proprietary Government," pp. 16-17. Hewatt's work, a correspondent writes, "is the basis—in fact the substance—of Ramsay's history, which quotes him copiously (without acknowledgment) and follows him blindly."

<sup>3</sup>Mr. Miche.—Of this Scotch family there were several in the Province. James Michie was a lawyer of prominence, Chief-Justice 1759-1761. William Michie, a merchant, was born in the parish



Cauly,<sup>1</sup> merchts, &c. P. M. Attended Divine service at the New England Independent meeting. Mr. Redman<sup>2</sup> alias Edmunds preach<sup>3</sup>, who together with Mr. Smith<sup>3</sup> an aged an infirm gent<sup>n</sup> is the minister of this meeting. 'tis abt the bigness of the Scotch meeting, has but a little bit of a gallery. I am told this congregation had its rise from some uneasy people headed by one Mr. Smith who is their present minister & who had his education at Cambridge College in N England. Had a fine walk with Mr. Carpenter<sup>4</sup> a gent<sup>n</sup>

of Strathdon, Aberdeenshire, and died 1 Nov., 1771, in the 49th year of his age. A tombstone to his memory in the Scotch Church yard was erected by his brother, John Michie.

Alexander Michie, merchant, died in August, 1774. The firms of Michie & Macaulay, and Ogilvie, Forbes, & Michie existed in 1765.—See Gazette.

"McCauly is probably the member of the firm above mentioned, Michie & Macaulay. Nothing more of him has been learned. "The firm dealt chiefly in wines, but all merchants of the day seem to have sold negroes."

"Mr. Redman alias Edmunds" was Rev. James Edmonds, an Englishman, pastor of the Independent Meeting—the Circular Church—from 1754 to 1767. He is said to have removed from Charles Town to take charge of a church in Georgia, and later to have become an itinerant preacher. After losing his eye-sight, he is said to have returned to Charleston and to have died there in 1794. His marriage to Sarah, relict of Thomas Broughton, Esq., in July, 1761, and her death in June, 1774, are mentioned in the Gazette.—See Charleston Year Book, 1882, p. 380.

"Mr. Smith, an aged and infirm gent<sup>n</sup>," was the Rev. Josiah Smith, a grandson of the first Landgrave Thomas Smith, Governor of the Province 1683. Josiah Smith was born in 1704. Having completed his education in Massachusetts, he commenced preaching in 1726. He was pastor of the Independent Church from 1742 to 1750. In 1749 or 50 he was paralyzed, but survived for many years, dying in Philadelphia in 1781.—Year Book, 1882.

\*Of Mr. Carpenter no further information has been obtained.



from Jamaica just arrived, & afterwards spent the evening very agreeably with Mr. Glen.

Monday 17. Taken up in putting my things aboard for a passage to Philadelphia. P. M. Rode to Mr. Marshal's plantation.

Tuesday 18. Not liking the accomodations of the sloop Peggy, disembarke<sup>d</sup> & embark<sup>d</sup> on board the brigantine, Prince of Wales, Thos<sup>s</sup> Mason Comand<sup>r</sup>, for Philadeiphiia. took leave of all my Charlestown friends. At 4 P. M. made sail: at 7 anchor<sup>d</sup> off the fort not being able to get over the bar. I have Mrs. Phanny Johnson an infant of 5 years old in my care for the voiage. She is a fatherless child & bound to Philad<sup>a</sup> in her way to Quebeck to her grandfather the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Brooks who has sent for her.

Now I have left Charlestown an agreeable & polite place in which I was used very genteelly & contract<sup>d</sup> much acquaintance for the time I staid here. The heats are much too severe, the water bad, the soil sandy, the timber too much evergreen; but with all these disadvantages, 'tis a flourishing place, capable of vast improvement: will have I fear some uncomfortable bands of banditti on its frontiers soon. it's distance from proper authority having already drawn there great numbers of very idle dissolute people who begin to be very troublesome.

Weds-day 19<sup>th</sup>. At 4 A. M. weighed anchor & made sail: the wind headed us and we turn<sup>d</sup> it over the Bar at 12, wind at N. E.: steer<sup>d</sup> E. S. E. 'till we gain<sup>d</sup> a good offing, then tack<sup>d</sup> & steer<sup>d</sup> N. 'till we were at night abreast Bull's Island then tack<sup>d</sup> again & stood off from the land.

Thursd. 20. Squally with thunder & rain: steer<sup>d</sup> eastward: light winds: no observation.

Friday 21. Steer<sup>d</sup> N. E. by E. Squally with thunder & rain. Whistling winds. Lat. obs.  $33^{\circ} 19'$  N. Wind at S. W. Brisk gale latter part of the day. See several water-spouts this day very near us. which raised a terrible sea in a few minutes, with dangerous flaws of wind.



Sat. 22. Fine wind at S. by W.: have run N.E. & N.E. by E. at ab<sup>c</sup> 8 knots for 24 hours past all the time in the Gulf stream: at 8 A. M. think ourselves abreast Cape Hatteras: from this time 'till 12 steer<sup>d</sup> N. N. W. Lat. obs<sup>d</sup>  $35^{\circ} 59'$ : thence N.: fine wind at S.: 7 k<sup>t</sup> gale: at out of the Gulf Stream: smooth sea & clear sky. Go easy under top gallant sails, foretopmast & lower studding sails, & ring-tail: are in soundings. Saw sundry sail of sloops which we took to be whalers of which there are great numbers on this coast from Cape May to Cape Hatteras.

Sunday 23. Wind at S. W. steering N. by W.: had an 8 k<sup>t</sup> gale most of last night: fine weather. At 10 A. M. the wind headed us & came ab<sup>t</sup> to N. & at 2 P. M. flattened into a calm. Lat. obs.  $37^{\circ} 58'$ : in soundings at 16 fathom, therefore are off Chingoteaug Shoals, & ab<sup>t</sup> 10 or 12 leagues from land. At 8 the wind freshend<sup>d</sup> & we run our course ab<sup>t</sup> 5 k<sup>t</sup> till the end of the day.

Mond. 24. In the morning make the Capes, May bearing N. W. dist.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  leagues: Cape Henlopen W.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  leagues: wind at N.E. At 9 A. M. were within the capes & took a pilot aboard: at 11 it flatten<sup>d</sup> to a calm: at 12 were 25 miles northw<sup>d</sup> of Cape Henlopen. Continued the rest of this day steering up the River Delaware.

Tuesday 25. At 4 A. M. were abreast Chester: at 11 cast anchor off Hog Island & waited the making of the tide, the wind being too scant. At 2 P. M. weighed & turnd<sup>d</sup> it up ye river slowly & had an oportunity to observe the most beautiful prospects of the islands and meadows of the northern shore, ye mouth of ye Schuilkill, the Palatine pest-house most agreeably situated on an island on ye mouth of Schuilkill: then Greenwich meadows, Gloucester-point, Gloucester town &c. At 6 P. M. arrived at the City of Philad<sup>a</sup> and came too & hauld<sup>d</sup> in at Clifford's wharf, went ashore, spent the evening with my worthy friend Mr. Gallaway, slept with Mr. Tho. Wharton Rejoyced to see again this agreeable city after an absence of six weeks and meet my worthy and



honorable friends. May I never forget the preservation of God and the gratitude I owe the best of beings.

26, 27, 28, 29—Weds., Thursd., Frid., Sat. Spent in visiting my friends who all rec'd me with great kindness. Got my things ashore from on board the vessel, am preparing to go again to Germantown. May God be my Guide and kind Preserver.

4259











